

# point three



April 1969

one shilling

ACTION FOR PEACE . . . . 67

LIFE IN A TWILIGHT ZONE 70

THE NEED FOR TOC H  
LEADERS . . . . . 80





*Toc H members accept a four-fold commitment: 1. to build friendships across the barriers that divide man from man; 2. to give personal service; 3. to find their own convictions while always being willing to listen to the views of others; 4. to work for the building of that better world which has been called the Kingdom of God. This magazine, which acts as a forum for ideas about Toc H and about the world in which we live, takes its title from the third of these Four Points—to think fairly.*

## April 1969

### On the Cover—

A blast on a huntsman's horn was the signal for 18 well muscled young men to rip a pancake to pieces at the West Surrey District guest night on Shrove Tuesday. It was a revival of an old Toc H custom and the award for the winner on this occasion was a "Surrey Puma" plaque made and presented by the new Byfleet group. Cyril Cattell, dressed to kill in a complete chef's rigout, tossed the 3" thick pancake into the air to announce the start of the contest. The winner was Peter Carter from "The Nail" Farnham group. That's him, we think, running in from the left. The evening ended quietly with Cyril explaining the role of the Bordon Company.

*Photo: Frank B. Rice, for the Surrey Herald.*

EDITOR Ken Prideaux-Brune  
ASSOC. EDITOR C. Huw Gibbs  
ADVERTISING Arthur Scholey  
DPS Publicity Services Ltd.,  
69 Fleet Street,  
LONDON E.C.4.  
01-583 7915

# point three

Editorial Office, 41 Trinity Square,  
London E.C.3. 01-709 0472

Letters and articles are welcomed but the opinions expressed therein are not necessarily those of the Toc H Movement



## recruitment—for what?

Most of us would accept that to recruit new members for the Movement should be, even if in practice it isn't, one of our most important tasks. Hence the anguish with which the annual publication of the membership figures is greeted. Hence the doubt and self-questioning which sometimes afflicts the Movement. But there are right reasons and wrong reasons for emphasising recruitment and it is important to distinguish between them.

We can all too easily become concerned primarily with the continued existence of Toc H as an institution. "He that would save his life shall lose it" is, however, an insight that applies to organisations as well as to individuals. There is no guarantee that Toc H will, or should, survive for ever. Self-preservation is not in itself an adequate motive for recruitment.

Our primary task is to help all those with whom we come into contact, members and non-members, to commit themselves ever more deeply to the things for which we stand, so that concern for others becomes more than merely a temporary hobby or a passing enthusiasm, becomes instead the central core round which their lives revolve.

Most of us will have had the privilege through Toc H of knowing men and women whose whole life seems to be devoted to others: who can always be relied on to volunteer, whatever the task; who are apparently tireless in the service of others. This devotion is a part of what is meant by commitment, but it is only a part, and not, perhaps, the most important part. Commitment as we understand the word in Toc H is something deeper and more personal than this.

Compulsive busy-ness is one of the characteristic temptations of our day. Of the forming of committees there is no end; and committees are all too frequently an evasion of commitment. Commitment is not membership of innumerable committees, however worthy; nor is it continuous activity, however unselfish. Service is not an end in itself. The

commitment we seek is to be found not so much in what we do as in what we are. It is a commitment not to service as such but to people.

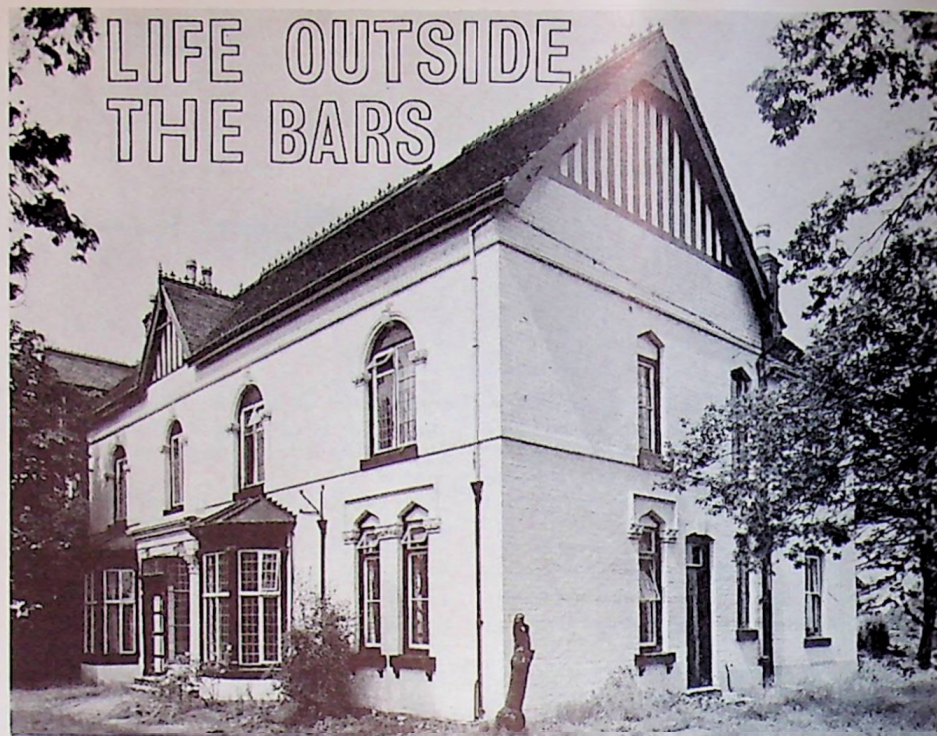
We believe that it is in and through our relationships with other people that we meet the God who is Love. It is in our openness to people, all the people that we meet in every aspect of our lives, that our commitment finds its deepest expression. Our commitment means a refusal to remain pinned in our own ghetto, a refusal to confine our friendships to "our own sort of people" or to concern ourselves with the pettiness of respectability or "what the neighbours think". This openness to people was the salient feature of the life of Jesus Christ. It is what, above all else, those who would be His followers must seek to attain.

Our primary task, then, is to help people deepen their commitment, a commitment seen in these kind of terms. Many will see membership of Toc H as an expression of that commitment. But it is the commitment that matters, not the signing of a membership form. If some seek to deepen their commitment through groups other than ours we should not feel that we have in any way failed. Recruitment is indeed important, so long as we remember that our primary concern should be commitment, from which membership will probably, but not necessarily, follow.

All of which may, perhaps, sound rather academic and theoretical. But the distinction is in fact an important one, with very practical consequences. As the debate initiated by the Questionnaire continues this will surely emerge as one of the basic assumptions underlying any decisions about the future. It has always been recognized that no Toc H experiment can be judged solely, or even partly, by the number of new members it produces. However, experiments can be judged, by the extent to which they offer to men and women opportunities to deepen their commitment to people. This, in essence, is what Toc H is all about.

K.P.B.





**The work of Bridgehead Housing Association is described by the Association's Secretary, The Rev. J. B. Harrison.**

In the September 1968 number, there was a very revealing letter from "Kendalian" who wrote about his voluntary work in an open prison and commented "I am not aware whether the needs of prisoners, released into a hostile world, have been seriously considered by our Movement. But surely here is a field in which we should be working". The main purpose of Bridgehead is to provide opportunities for good-neighbourly people who really want to do something practical to counteract the vicious prejudice which refuses to give a discharged prisoner a chance, and is determined to pursue the injustice of hanging his sentence round his neck, and that of his wife and family, for ever.

"Kendalian" hits the nail on the head when he goes on to say "My experience of prisoners makes it clear that very few of them, on release, are willing to accept *official* help from any Government service." The Home Office has realised the value of after-care in the community for discharged prisoners and has now made it a statutory responsibility of the Probation and After-Care Service. Yet, however sincere the Probation and After-Care Officer is, he is handicapped in his ability to communicate with his client at any real depth just because he is an official. I know, as a parson, how difficult it is to get



across the idea of genuine friendship when people think that I am paid to do it, or imagine that they have a right to anything which I can do.

The kind of communication which really helps to restore a man to right relationships in society can best be given by people who are seen to be doing it entirely in a voluntary capacity as good neighbours; the genuineness of this quality of concern cannot be denied and is the most likely to arouse in the client the response and the co-operation without which he can never really be helped. This is particularly so when the offender's return to society is handicapped by having nowhere to go. The homeless offender, faced with social ostracism, particularly if his real problem is simply a basic inadequacy, is far too likely to drift back to prison as the only place which remains open to him. Lord Stonham, Minister of State at the Home Office, has frequently commented on the appalling waste of human life represented by the recidivism in which this process ends.

In 1966 the Home Office set up a Working Party, under the Chairmanship of Lady Reading, to consider after-care and, in its report "The Provision of Residential Accommodation for Discharged Offenders", it recommended the setting up of a national housing association which would help groups of local voluntary workers to provide accommodation for homeless offenders by relieving them of the necessity to raise large capital funds for the purchase of houses: the association would buy and adapt them, by means of housing loans or mortgages backed by Home Office capital grant-aid, and would then let them to voluntary committees who would repay the mortgage charges as rent.

This recommendation was adopted and the Home Secretary invited a group of responsible people to form the Management Committee of this national housing association: one of the members is Jack Stray who was for many years Chairman of the Wembley & Preston Branch of Toc H. The Home Office also asked a voluntary society, the Church of England Council for Social Aid (formerly the National Police Court Mission) to administer the association, since for many years it has worked with the Home Office in the provision of approved probation hostels for young offenders and has a network of voluntary contacts throughout the country.

The practical advantages of this new association are obvious. The British public is notoriously disinclined to support any schemes for human betterment simply at the planning stage, but, when they see a thing in operation and doing a good job, they will rally round. Any appeal on the scale needed to raise capital funds locally for a half-way house serves only to arouse latent fear and

prejudice and the house becomes a bone of contention in the neighbourhood with the fires of discord duly stoked in the local press by people who dip their pen in Victorian ink and come out with words like "old lags" and "gaol-birds". This means that our residents cannot have the anonymity which is the right of every citizen in coming and going quietly to his home. We have also found that these local outcries raise planning problems which make it impossible for local committees to exercise their legal rights of house purchase. One local committee had in mind a house which had been used as a boarding house for long-distance lorry drivers, but their attempts to interest the locality in using it for homeless offenders resulted in a hostile petition from near and far to the local authority planning committee which instructed the voluntary committee to obtain a determination of the planning consent. The authority then refused this on the grounds that the proposed residents suffered from a "social disability"—which was the very reason why the local committee was trying to help them.

### Not dangerous

The pity of it is that this fear and panic is quite unnecessary. As long ago as 1895, the Gladstone Committee reported: "The great majority of prisoners are ordinary men and women, amenable more or less to all those influences which affect people outside". This idea was still a novelty seventy years later and the Reading Committee had to make the same emphasis. "The essential point to get across to the public is that the vast majority of offenders are not dangerous criminals, but individuals handicapped by their inadequacy." There is no doubt that to reject rather than to support these people on their return to the community is the surest way of driving them back to prison and, in the end, of turning a social disability into a criminal attitude.

There is no doubt also that the work of the pioneer after-care houses run by voluntary societies shows that a response can be gained from the most unlikely. I remember one man who had been in and out of prison all his life: he was not basically a criminal, but he could not cope with responsible social relationships and found it easier to go back to prison than to face the indifference or hostility of his fellow-citizens. At last, on coming out of prison he found a place in a house set up by a voluntary group who helped him find work and gave him a sense of security and support. He got his job, because it was a very awkward early morning shift which no one else wanted and he regularly walked seven miles through the dark to arrive in time.



As we look to the future, we expect not only to help to prevent inadequate people returning to prison but also to provide alternatives to imprisonment for them so that they can be enabled to overcome the difficulties which have led them into trouble without losing the opportunity to support themselves. We also hope to provide therapeutic alternatives for people like alcoholics whose offences arise from illness rather than criminality. It is not generally realised that at least forty per cent of men who are in prison are there because at some point they failed to

control their drinking. Such people need treatment rather than custody, and in a therapeutic hostel they would not only receive the support and the knowledge of themselves which they need, but they would also be able to continue to work and support themselves and their families.

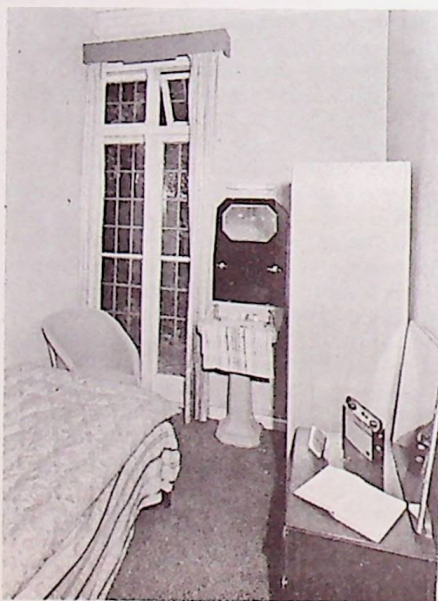
In providing such supportive alternatives to imprisonment, Bridgehead could not only help society to preserve the usefulness of many lives, it could also save the community a good deal of money. Custodial establishments in this country have an average of 34,000 inmates each year and the prisons are so overcrowded that the older ones are sleeping three men in cells designed for only one. Each man in prison costs the Exchequer about £15-10-0 for himself in addition to any supplementary benefits required for his family and the cost rises to £18-10-0 a week for lads in detention centres. On an average it costs about £11 a week to keep such a man in one of our houses of which he will pay about £5 from his wages, with the Exchequer and the voluntary committee paying about £3 each. It has been estimated that of the average annual turnover of 50,000 a year in our places of custody only about 3,000 are really dangerous people from whom the community needs to be protected, and from whom it could, in fact, be properly protected, if the ill and the inadequate were treated in the community.

So we begin to look beyond the welfare state, with its tendency for people to shelve their responsibilities on to "them", to the welfare society in which we all assume a real good-neighbourly responsibility for each other. However good "they" may be, only the community can really welcome back those whom it has sent to custody. Bridgehead, as its name implies, is a link not only between the homeless offender and society but between the statutory services and the community, without whose interest and concern they can never function fully.

In every part of the country there are now opportunities for local groups to help shoulder the responsibility of helping homeless offenders to find a real place in society again: any Toc H groups who feel that they could play their part in this work are invited to write to the Secretary of Bridgehead, the Revd. J. B. Harrison, Church House, Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W.1. who will be glad to help them to get work on a suitable project.

**Note:** The Bridgehead Housing Association has, of course, no connection with our own Bridgehead House in Birmingham, which does not house ex-prisoners but provides a home for boys, many of whom come from broken or unsatisfactory homes, and has been in operation since 1956.

A view of a lounge and one of the comfortable single rooms.





# personality point

**Mrs. Marlene Jane**, 7 Hampshire Road, Belmont, Durham City, has been appointed Honorary Area Correspondent for the Northern Area.

**Miss Margaret Allen**, who has been a member of the Midlands Regional Team, left the Staff at the end of February.

Congratulations to **W. B. ("Jock") Brown**, a member of Toc H War Services Staff during the last war and now Warden of South Bastion Club, Gibraltar, on being made an M.B.E.

**Mrs. Margaret Lawrence**, The Headlands, Victoria Road, Rushden, Northants, has been appointed Honorary Area Correspondent for Beds & Herts Area.

**Mrs. Olive Engwell** has left the Builders Department where she was responsible for Women's Association Builders' records, and is now working for the Mothers' Union.

## notices

**Toc H London Sports** will take place in Battersea Park on Saturday May 10.

**A brass band and choir concert**, organised by Leeds District Toc H in aid of handicapped children, will be given in Leeds Town Hall on June 17 at 7.15 pm. Enquiries to G. Margetts, 51 St. Anne's Road, Leeds.

**Spring Bank Holiday**, May 26, is Open Day at Dor Knap. The Warden will be pleased to hear from any who propose organising parties for a visit on this special occasion.

## FESTIVAL '70

A Festival Committee has been appointed and preparations for Festival '70 on June 20-21, 1970, have begun. The broad plan includes a Thanksgiving Service on the Saturday at noon, followed by gatherings in the Tower Moat when displays of various kinds are to be held. In the evening, in the Royal Albert Hall, a Festival Evening will be held at which a major event in the programme will be a presentation of Toc H in drama form. It is also proposed to revive a successful feature of the Jubilee Year in staging an Art and Craft Exhibition on Tower Hill. Painters, sculptors, needleworkers, embroiderers, might begin to look ahead and plan their future activities with the Exhibition in mind.

It is early days to define it in more detail, but given support it should provide the inspiration that festival gatherings have done so often in the past. Probably Toc H will be meeting as one family for the first time. Let us look to Festival '70 to help usher in a new era of relationships.

**IONA WEEK 1969.** The dates for the Iona week in 1969 will be September 13 to September 20. The week will be led by Vera Harley and the Rev. Gualter de Mello. In order that more people are given a chance to visit the Island, no more than a third of the places will go to those who have already visited Iona. All applications to: Mrs. D. McKinna, 35 Plewlands Avenue, Edinburgh 10.

**OVERSEAS ASSEMBLY TO PAPER-INGE, June 5—9, 1969.** Would anyone who would like to join this party contact the International Secretary, Crutched Friars House, London E.C.3.

**Five year plan.** The Southern Area's five year plan, referred to in the March issue, has been produced in booklet form. Copies may be obtained, price 6d. each, from Miss Rose Stanbridge, 68 Roswell Avenue, Weymouth, Dorset.

## obituary

**We regret to announce the death of the following members:**

**In October:** Kitty Dachateau (Brussels). **In November:** Florence Clark (York), the Rev. Thomas Ritchie (Prestwick), Charles Shaw (Upton, Poole). **In January:** Emily J. Adams (Stayne), Julia Aldous (Greathouse), Richard Groucutt (Denbigh), Alfred J. Hutchings (Gillingham), Albert W. Sturgeon, Snr. (North Ormesby). **In February:** The Rev. Henry F. J. Fry (Coventry), Arthur Fryer (Victoria, B.C.), James R. Jaquest (Lindley), the Rev. Griffith J. Roberts (Conway), Arthur Spurdle (Winsham).

**We give thanks for their lives.**



# MISTER FIVE PER CENT

In a recent television programme, only 5% of the studio audience indicated that they feared muscular dystrophy.

We know a few thousand parents who think differently—their children are suffering from it.

Their only hope lies in the research into a cure we can finance from voluntary donations. If we had more money, we could buy a lot more hope.

Will you prove your concern for the children suffering from this terrible disease by sending us a small gift of money? You may never be a TV star, but you'll be very important in the eyes of these children.

**MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY GROUP OF GREAT BRITAIN**

Room 3, 26 Borough High Street, London, S.E.1.



"In the age of nuclear, chemical and biological warfare the cause of practical internationalism is surely at least as relevant as ever," says Frank Judd M.P. in this article, specially written for *Point Three*.

# action for peace



*Frank Judd is the Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Minister of Housing and Local Government and the President of the Co-ordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service.*

By 1970 American, Russian, Czech, British and Japanese volunteers could be working side by side in a community service project somewhere in the developing world. This is one possible outcome of a meeting which took place last December near Geneva. At the largest and most representative conference of volunteer organisations yet convened, delegates from 93 organisations (twenty of them international) representing thirty-five countries in East and West Europe, North America, Latin America, Africa, Asia and the Middle East decided to establish what is to be called "A Clearing House of Volunteers for Development".

UNESCO has already promised financial assistance and at a special session of the conference in Geneva itself the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme and almost all the U.N. specialised agencies involved in development indicated their willingness to support the project. The Clearing House will be administered by the Co-ordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service which sponsored the December meeting.

Quite as significant as the cross-section of industrialised countries present at the meeting was the dialogue between representatives of these countries and their counterparts from the developing countries. Frequently volunteer-sending agencies come together to evaluate the effectiveness of their programmes, but here there was an opportunity for them to test their evaluation against the views of those they claim to help. They were also compelled to

see their contribution against the background of increasing voluntary community service by young people of the developing countries themselves.

While it was interesting that such a widely international gathering should have agreed to go ahead with the Clearing House as a practical project for co-operation, it was even more remarkable that the same conference should have been able to agree the text of a proposed Universal Charter for Voluntary Service without a single voice of dissent. This draft charter sets out the objectives of service and the internationally acceptable criteria for the selection of volunteers and projects. Of course it would be easy to be naive. The United Nations has accumulated plenty of experience of paper agreements which lead to precious little action and the Co-ordinating Committee will have minimal resources with which to tackle the formidable obstacles to practical internationalism, but it is no mean achievement to have taken the first steps towards a common language and philosophy. As at international consultations on other specialist themes, what happened was that the mutual dynamic interest in the treble objectives of service, development and international understanding put the formal political differences in a new perspective. Not for the first time there was evidence of human relationships outpacing restrictive political concepts.

The conference as a conference kept its feet firmly on the ground, resisting the temptation to disappear into its own rarified theorisation. It was emphatic that the Clearing House



should only respond to genuine needs expressed by the developing countries themselves and that care should be taken to avoid suppressing local initiatives for development as some volunteer programmes may have done in the past. It seems that genuine international balance may well be preserved for while there is nothing to prevent them participating in the Clearing House it is unlikely that the U.S. Peace Corps and several other larger governmental agencies will do so in the immediate future.

There is good reason to believe that had Pierre Ceresole, the founder of the first international volunteer organisation, Service Civil International (known as International Voluntary Service in Britain), been alive and able to attend the meeting he would have been well pleased. He always recognised in effective service on an international basis the opportunity to build a degree of international solidarity which could never be achieved around the conference table alone.

Recently rapid expansions in voluntary service throughout the world whatever their educative value have been limited or national in origin or purpose. The conference last December served to remind all its participants of the wider potentialities. In the age of nuclear, chemical and biological warfare, when in terms of security and economic survival the nations of the world are increasingly interdependent, the cause of practical internationalism is surely at least as relevant as ever.



## welcome point

**The following new Branches were formally recognised by the Central Executives at their February meeting:**

Beaconsfield, Edgmond (Joint), Hackney (Joint), Hainault (Joint), Mansfield Woodhouse (Joint), Lambeth Central (Joint), Widmore (W.A.).

**The following Branches elected new members during February:**

- 6—Lampeter (Joint).
- 5—Higham Ferrers (W.A.).
- 4—Eastbourne (Joint), Toftwood (W.A.), Yiewsley & West Drayton.
- 3—Bromborough (W.A.), Hitchin (W.A.), Wallingford (Joint).
- 2—Barnsley, Bourne End (W.A.), Glastonbury (W.A.), Holyhead, Mildenhall, Paignton, Poole (W.A.), Rushden (W.A.), Tywardreath (Joint), Wroughton (W.A.).
- 1—Bishop Auckland (W.A.), Blackburn, Bourne End, Bradwell (W.A.), Bramley, Buckingham, Camborne (Joint), Congleton, Corby, Corby (W.A.), Denton, East Worthing (W.A.), Eltham (W.A.), Felpham, Folkestone (W.A.), Glasgow (W.A.), Greathouse (Joint), Hednesford, Huddersfield, Leatherhead, Leighton Buzzard (W.A.), Melrose, Nailsea, Oldham (W.A.), Oswestry, Oswestry (W.A.), Reigate & Redhill, R.H.H.I.—Putney, Scottish Area, Shavington, Shrewsbury, Slough, Southborough, Sprowston (W.A.), Stranton (W.A.), Streatham & Norbury, Thurrock, Trimley (W.A.), Ulverston (W.A.), Wakefield (W.A.), Wem, West Kirby Beacon, West Worthing (W.A.), Weybridge, Workington (W.A.).

**97 new members were elected during February, to whom we extend a warm welcome.**



April is the first anniversary of the tragic death of Martin Luther King who died that all might live to be free. This poem by Peter Dalton, an R.I. teacher in South London, warns how easy it is to slip into an attitude of not caring.

## DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING



Photo: United Press International (UK) Ltd.

*I pulled the trigger when, on whitewashed wall  
I read "Nigger go home"—and did not call  
For scourer to efface the damning thought.*

*I pulled the trigger when, in crowded street  
My colleagues jeered at passing blacks' retreat  
From snarling youngsters out for baiting sport.*

*I pulled the trigger when, on night-ride 'hus  
I let the lads lash out and floor young Gus  
Who wondered why he'd left Jamaica's sun.*

*I pulled the trigger when, in crowded train  
I would not take the empty seat—disdained  
To sit beside a coloured British son.*

*I pulled the trigger when, from Dahlgren's gay  
Responsive face I sadly turned away  
For fear what others said, should I but smile.*

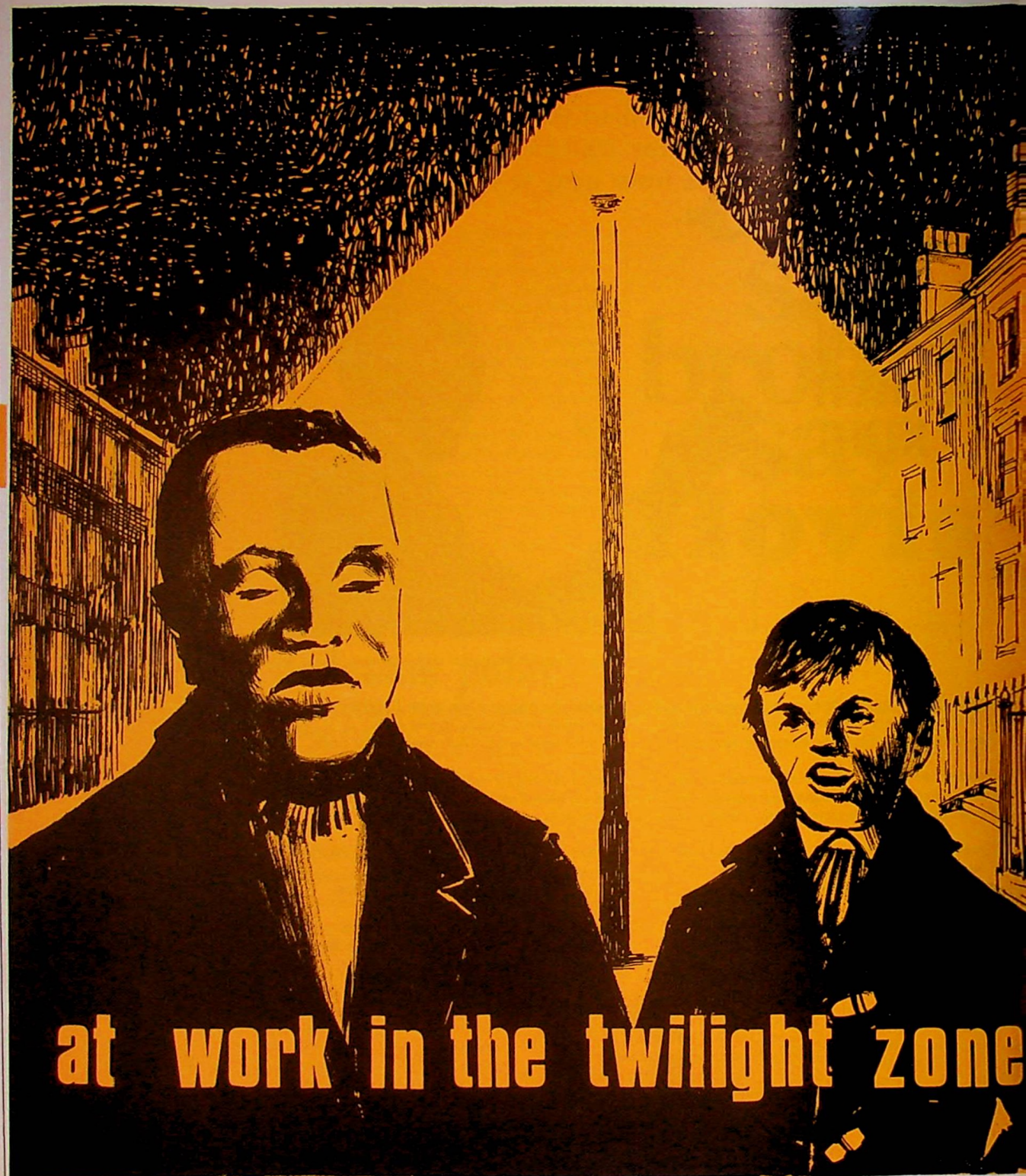
*I pulled the trigger when "they" blandly wrote  
"Sorry, no coloureds". Does this not provoke  
Resentment, mounting grimly all the while?*

*I pulled the trigger when "they'd" not employ  
A highly qualified but coloured boy  
And took instead a dismal, shiftless white.*

*I pulled the trigger when, along the road  
The dustmen made strong "Sambo" lift his load  
Just twice as far as other dustmen might.*

*Forgive me, Lord: I know just what I do  
Yet daily crucify a saint like You.  
Give me the will-power not to stand aloof  
Simply because a darkie told the truth.  
Give me the strength and courage to maintain  
That freedom in equality shall reign.*





**at work in the twilight zone**





In my first article I argued that the primary role of the community centre should be as a *resource* within the neighbourhood. It should not aim to draw all the activities and indigenous leadership of the community within its orbit, but rather to stimulate and support local community organisations. The focal point will be not the centre itself, but the community beyond its walls.

The pattern of work in the experimental centre at Mark I in Notting Hill aims to reflect this belief. The main purpose of the house is to develop as a resource for community and race relations within Notting Hill. This will be done firstly through providing a base for 10-12 residents to work in the wider community, either through their professional jobs or in a voluntary way. Already members of the house are actively involved in the work of the Adventure Playground, the Inter-racial Council, the Notting Hill People's Association and a number of other groups.

Secondly, the house can provide the opportunity for a group of people from different races and backgrounds to live together as a multi-racial community. In this sense the Centre seeks to realize in microcosm the ideals it is working towards in the wider community. At present there are residents from Guyana, Trinidad, England and the United States in the house, both men and women, and we hope to broaden this further in the next few months.

Thirdly, the house can offer amenities for offices, and act as a meeting-place for community groups. The Kensington and Chelsea Inter-racial Council have their headquarters in the house, and use the premises for meetings and for social and cultural activities. Recently, we have also set up an offset printing press in the basement, run full-time by two girls, which aims to provide a low-priced yet attractive printing service to local groups. Work is now going ahead to convert the old coal cellar into a rehearsal room for the West Indian steel band, run by Selwyn Baptiste. And plans for the future include a pre-school play group, facilities for further education courses, and training programmes for workers in community projects: a short pilot project was recently organised for volunteers in housing advice work.

It must be recognized that this policy imposes certain restraints on what the Centre can accomplish. Necessarily Toc H will not be the focus for the activities of the warden, the residents or the members. Unlike the traditional settlement it will not grow into the central organizing agency. This is dictated in part by the large number of social agencies already at work in the community: to add one more independent group would serve only to proliferate competing agencies. But, more importantly, the rationale for the policy lies in

## NOTTING HILL part two

by  
**CHRIS HOLMES**





The Kensington and Chelsea Inter-racial Council have their H.Q. in the house, and a print-shop has opened in the basement.

*Photos: Bob Broeder.*



the need to stimulate indigenous leadership and locally based neighbourhood groups. The role of the Toc H centre is to offer the support of a community worker: the particular skills of lawyers, accountants, sociologists, journalists and so on; the amenities of meeting rooms or the printing press—which enable the disadvantaged to redress the imbalance of skill and resource.

In the long run, the criterion for measuring the success of the experiment lies in the strength of community organization, not in the prominence of the Toc H label. The distinctive contribution may be in the ability of the house to blend the different experiences, accents and priorities through the life together of the residents in the house. It will not be primarily through the community programmes of the Toc H centre.

If this approach is valid, then it suggests some guide-lines for Toc H policy in other areas. If Toc H is to respond to the needs of deprived communities, particularly in areas of racial tension, then it must act consciously to place resources of staff, members and property in such neighbourhoods. The approach might be to select a few areas, such as Wolverhampton, Bradford, Rochdale and Glasgow, as priorities for special community projects. After an initial reconnaissance, the plan would then be to appoint a community worker, backed by a handful of committed voluntary

workers, and probably to lease a house in the area. The precise emphasis and tactics would be shaped according to the needs of the community and the activities of existing groups. The strategy, however, would be constant. The aim of Toc H would be to express its concern for human brotherhood by working with the oppressed in their struggle for social justice. It is in the twilight areas of our cities that the poor, the immigrants, the social misfits find themselves branded as "second class citizens". The stigma is most marked for black people in our society, but it is a common characteristic of those who are forced to live in these deprived communities. They are caught up in a cycle of bad housing, low wages and poor schools, yet not able to break out and influence the destiny of their lives. Only if Toc H is present in those communities, working for radical social change, can it live up to its ideals: not simply rescuing individuals from crisis, but staining the character of the whole society. Such initiatives would certainly demand courage in changing established priorities and redeploying resources—of property, capital and staff. Yet radical initiatives always involve difficult choices. Their justification can only be that they represent the only valid response to the crisis of racial antagonism and persisting poverty at the heart of a rich society.



# THE QUESTIONNAIRE—

## the next steps

This is not an attempt to produce a summary of the summaries of the summaries of the replies to the Questionnaire, but rather an attempt to outline what would appear to be the next stage in reaching decisions on the way forward.

The replies indicate that on many issues there is a very broad measure of agreement throughout the Movement. There is, for instance, a clear recognition of the Christian basis of the Movement, a clear recognition that "Toc H is more than friendship and service and should lead to an understanding of the purpose of God".

There is equally clearly general acceptance of the fact that Toc H, as a Movement of the Spirit, can and should be expressed in a variety of ways. While Branches are seen as the basic expression of Toc H it is accepted that the Movement should also work through Marks, Centres, projects and, no doubt, in other ways as yet untried.

On these major issues the mind of the Movement seems to have been clearly expressed. On several important issues, however, no such agreement has emerged and difficult decisions will have to be made by the Central Executives to be elected at this month's Central Council meetings.

Perhaps the most important of these decisions, one that is really a question of priorities, concerns the deployment of staff. There is general agreement that more field staff are required in order to give a better coverage of the country. The need for more staff to be more freely available for training, extension, contact-making and inspiration emerges clearly from the replies to the Questionnaire.

On the other hand the replies seem to favour the establishment of additional Marks and Centres ("provided they are properly run") and a number of places where such initiatives might be taken were suggested. Here again, additional staff would be required. The case for more staff, both to work with existing Branches and to establish new ones, and to take new initiatives in urban situations, is strong but unless there is a miraculous change in our financial position difficult choices must be made. What proportion of staff time should be allocated to each of these tasks? That, basically, is the question that must be answered.

It's not simply a question of additional Marks or Centres. If it is true, as the Rucker Report suggested, that a Mark, whether used as a Centre or run in the traditional way, can only be effective if a member of the staff devotes the major proportion of his time and energy to it, then we are clearly unlikely to be able to continue to operate all our present properties. The argument that it is better to make effective use of a few buildings than to run a larger number of Marks inadequately seems sound; and it is at least arguable that too high a proportion of the assets of the Movement are tied up in property. However, the decision as to where the axe should fall can never be an easy one.

There is an apparent contradiction in the answers to two of the questions in the final section of the Questionnaire. A majority seem to feel that any new plans we adopt should be carried out from our present resources. A majority also seem to be in favour of a national appeal. Perhaps the answer is that, while not in favour of an appeal to meet the cost of our existing work, the membership would back an appeal for a National Project, capable of catching the imagination of both the Movement and the general public. At any rate a number of suggestions for such a project have been received.

The results of so much effort may seem meagre but it is doubtful whether such an exercise could ever have provided us with final answers. It has at least clarified the questions that need to be answered. And some, at least, have obviously appreciated the opportunity for thought and discussion that the Questionnaire provided.

Perhaps the mistake, if there was a mistake, was the use of the word policy. A policy implies something that once decided will be followed rigidly and I would doubt whether Toc H is the kind of organisation that can ever have a policy in this sense. Toc H must surely always be sufficiently flexible to seize opportunities as they arise in response to the promptings of the Spirit. What is essential, and in this the Questionnaire has made an important contribution, is that we should be clear about our basic objectives, that we should understand the criteria by which individual decisions must be judged.

K.P.B.





---

**Letters are welcomed. But the Editor reserves the right to use extracts as space permits.**

---

### Dig deep

News has filtered through to us here in the West Midlands that the Movement's overdraft has reached the limit allowed by the bank.

In Walsall Branch those who possibly could have the treasurer six months' subs. in advance. As a result a sum in excess of £1 per member was forthwith sent to HQ. A drop in the ocean indeed! But what if this were repeated throughout the country? What if, at the next meeting of every Branch, enough cash from each member's self-assessment should flow into the treasurer's coffer to enable him to send £1 a head to HQ? It wouldn't clear the overdraft but it would stem the tide.

Any organisation which changes its financial year runs into some difficulty. Don't let it happen to us. The cash must come in to allow the work to go on. Think big—not parochially. Act now—not "discuss next week". N.B. Branch treasurer: If this "advanciquid" appeal fails, why not press for agreement to send the equivalent from the "special" or "reserve" fund?

*Basil J. Mucklow*

*Walsall*

### Links with Roman Catholics

I'm afraid I must disappoint West Essex Joint District on their "first". Maidenhead Branch held the World Chain of Light (24-hour vigil) of Jubilee Year, 1965, in St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Maidenhead. During the vigil Mass was celebrated by the Roman Catholics and our members and members of the women's Branch were present throughout.

*Derick Parsons*

*Maidenhead*

### AA guide to Toc H Branches?

In my opinion our Movement suffers very considerably from a lack of communication, especially between Branches (apart from those within the same District).

Would it not be possible for Headquarters to issue a sort of AA guide to Toc H, listing Branches instead of garages? Some Branch, for instance, may be throwing away objects which another is trying to collect. Branches which, in modern terms, may be quite near each other.

Jobmasters know roughly what will be the main activities during the year, and the approximate dates. It is also known what articles are available or will be needed. I am quite sure that the leftovers from many a jumble sale could subsequently form the basis of another Branch's effort. Some Branches may have equipment for loan, or halls available. We are doing a great deal of fragmented work which with help from Headquarters could be much more effective and economic.

Members on holiday or moving around the country could without effort see from such a guide what interested them in their new location.

*John Harding*

*Westerham, Kent*

*\*The time, date and location of Branch meetings can be obtained from Headquarters. Editor.*

### Absent friends

In our Branch we have instituted a novel idea which we call "welfare" and at the beginning of each meeting members are asked to give their report on absent or sick members, or their wives, and so we are brought up-to-date with news and can then decide the method of dealing with each case.

*H. G. Antrum*

*Haywards Heath, Sussex*

### What makes a good Branch?

In the January issue Tom Squires asked for the average age of the members of West Essex Joint District, in an effort to discover why the first six items on their list were concerned with self-entertainment, jobs coming bottom of the league.

He has been misinformed. The full report (probably too long for publica-

tion) shows "a corporate job" and "plenty of Branch jobs" in 11th and 16th places respectively; both were above Branch entertainment ("a lively social life") which was last but one, in 23rd place. The first six items have nothing to do with Branch entertainment, and I can assure Tom that West Essex can hold its own against any District when it comes to jobs.

*Norman Chidley*

*Loughton, Essex*

### Passing on Point Three

I write to ask about the circulation and distribution of our magazine. Are plans afoot to widen its outreach? How many libraries receive it and make it available to the public? Even though it may not be feasible to sell *Point Three* over newsagents' counters, members or Branches can order extra copies to take to work, for their canteen, office, rest room, etc. Also to youth clubs, schools and churches.

Enough said, actions speak louder than words!

*A. Spencer*

*Northampton*

### A protest

A recently published Toc H poster seized my attention the other day. The poster was advertising projects for this summer. At the top of this highly informative sheet a certain slogan, designed to capture the attention of young people, was written in large orange type. The slogan ran 'INSTEAD OF PROTESTING DO SOMETHING POSITIVE'. So overcome was I by this moving message, that I ripped down the poster, tore it to shreds and burnt it.

Here we have Toc H, struggling to attract young blood into the Movement, and yet advertising itself in such a middle-aged and middle-class fashion. I fear Toc H will shrink into oblivion with such an approach. I appeal to the Toc H advertising experts to aim at attracting students for their projects rather than turning them green at the sight of anything to do with Toc H.

*Militant volunteer*

*Birmingham 13.*



## RHYL CAMP GETS PERMANENT HOME

by Cliff Morse

For 20 years Toc H members from the Manchester District have organised holidays for under-privileged children in various seaside resorts including St. Annes, Fleetwood, Southport and mainly in Rhyl. For the past six years Toc H members of the South Cheshire & North Staffs District have carried out a similar job in the Rhyl area. The work in Rhyl has always had the close co-operation of Toc H members from that area and their efforts have been invaluable.

For some years there has been the desire to find a permanent centre in Rhyl and a number of determined efforts came to nothing.

It was early last autumn that the three groups agreed to do some real searching and the Rhyl men sorted out a suitable site. Plans were drawn up, approved, a tender accepted and the centre is due to be ready for occupation by July this year. This has all happened within four months.

The three groups have pooled their resources and now meet the challenge of raising the final £3,500 as soon as possible to cover the total of £14,600 for the whole scheme.

When completed and paid for the whole centre will be the property of Toc H Incorporated and will be con-

trolled by a Management Committee comprised of members of the three groups.

During the operation of the scheme almost 4,500 children have been catered for and a further 292 will be given a holiday this year. The helpers are mainly students who give up part of their vacation and the cost averages a little over £2 per child. Other voluntary organisations have given valuable help all along.

During the period when the centre is not being used for holidays it could be used for Toc H week-ends or conferences and this was kept in mind when the plans were drawn up.

### FIRST WOMAN H.A.C.



Beds, Herts & North Bucks have appointed Margaret Lawrence as H.A.C. Margaret succeeds Ted Curry and becomes the first woman to hold the position of H.A.C. in Toc H. Prior to this encouraging appointment she had been Staff Deputy for the Women's Association for 16 years and was a member of the Women's Association Central Executive during 1953-57. Margaret and her husband are both school-

### Surprise bequest for Toc H

Syd Woodall, *Point Three* correspondent for East Devon Joint District, reports a piece of good news from Budleigh Salterton—good news which has come as a complete surprise. Miss Hilda Halsall, a former hospital Matron who died in Budleigh Salterton last September, has left Toc H a legacy which is likely to amount to over £7,000. She had not apparently had any previous connection with the Movement but, according to Miss Kathleen Young, the friend with whom she lived, "she heard about the work carried on quietly by the local Toc H and this appealed to her. She made a lot of enquiries and felt that they were helping people who really needed help". This gesture of faith is a very real encouragement, not only to Budleigh Salterton Branch, but to the Movement as a whole.

### Toc H wives form Branch in Kent

A Lamp was recently presented to the newly-formed Women's Association Branch at Wigmore, a fast developing residential suburb of Gillingham, in Kent. "This was the climax of a venture which started nearly a year ago," writes Doreen Westland, secretary of the Medway & Sheppey Joint District Team, "when a few wives of Toc H members in Wigmore decided to explore the possibility of forming a Branch. They have met regularly in each other's homes during the past year and have already given their support to the prison after-care service."

### Snow couldn't keep her away

The only person to battle her way through the February snow to the Friday Club started by Toc H Kingswinford was an elderly lady who walks with difficulty with the aid of a stick. After an hour's walk she reached the community centre where the club meets and this kind of determination is some indication of the value of the club. The club, which has about 100 members, is open to all who feel the need for company, not simply the elderly.

teachers and during the teaching shortage Margaret was persuaded to come out of retirement and now teaches in the Junior Department of the school where her husband is Headmaster. They have three grown-up children and four grandchildren and derive much enjoyment from them and their hobby—motoring. Margaret told us that she hopes to visit all the District Teams in turn and help in any way she can. She has been a member of Rushden Branch for 27 years.

Since this appointment another woman has taken the H.A.C.'s job in the Northern Area. An announcement appears in *Personality Point* on page 65.



# TOC H LAUNCH "SHELTER" GROUP IN SEVENOAKS

"The problem of the homeless," wrote Lord Colgrain in a letter published in the January issue of *Point Three*, "is a national scandal, causing much suffering and leading to broken homes, juvenile crime, and handicaps in the education of some children, and surely it presents us with a challenge. Could not this be met by helping to start "Shelter" groups in as many towns as possible. We are starting one in Sevenoaks."

The Sevenoaks "Shelter" group was in fact launched at a public meeting attended by well over 200 people. "The usual attendance at a public meeting is about 40," said Branch chairman, Brian Herring. "The fact that more than 200 people have turned up has shown the real interest there is in this problem." This result was achieved by a great deal of hard work. The Branch had approached, personally, or by letter, every organisation in the town and a great many influential individuals.

## Young people

Speakers at the meeting were Miss Elizabeth Wills, who wrote the article on "Shelter" published in the August issue of *Point Three*, and Mrs. Joan Ruddock, "Shelter's" Home Counties Regional Organiser. Miss Wills outlined the scale of the problem of homelessness and the way "Shelter" was trying to deal with it, succinctly summed up in the phrase: "to make housing available at rents people can afford." Mrs. Ruddock pointed out that no less than £150,000 had been raised

by young people by sponsored walks for "Shelter" last year. Other successful money-raising ideas had been painting competitions involving all the schools in an area and halfpenny collections by children.

A further meeting of those definitely prepared to help has since been held. "Over 30 turned up," writes Donald Colgrain, "and a committee of eight, mostly from the younger generation,

was elected. Many ideas were put forward as to the kind of activities to be undertaken by various organisations to raise money.

"There is, to my mind, no better way of interesting youth in social service than to enlist their help for the homeless. Certainly there is no doubt that the effort made by Sevenoaks Branch has brought valuable publicity both to "Shelter" and to Toc H."

## Increased contributions from Builders

"A great many Builders increased their subscriptions for the year", reports Eric Caulton, Builders Secretary. However, the figures for the year ended October 31, 1968, just released, show a further decline in the total number of Builders. "I suppose," says Eric, "we may try to shift some of the blame on to the 'squeeze,' resulting in a tightening of belts all round, but I cannot help feeling that Areas generally are not doing all they could in recruit-

ment. Of the 342 new enrolments 202 were recruited by Women's Association Branches. This clearly indicates that only a portion of those Toc H members who resigned upon becoming less active have transferred to the Builders' roll. At the risk of being a bore I repeat the hope that Areas will make an effort to secure resigning members wherever possible, quite apart from enlisting support from new friends of the Movement."

## Bitterne Women become English Teachers

Bitterne (W.A.) Branch have found a very practical way of helping immigrants in Southampton, reports *Point Three* correspondent Arthur Herrod. They visit their homes in order to help the women learn English. And at the same time, no doubt, are able to help them in many other ways to adjust to English life. Out of practical help such as this friendship and understanding can grow. Here, surely, is something that many other women's Branches could do.

## Apology

*By some strange mental process the name of Stella Jones, of Worthing, appeared in last month's issue as Stella Fisher. Many apologies, Stella. We haven't even got a computer to blame it on.*

## CHARLIE'S BACK



Those among our readers who call at Headquarters will recognise the craggy features of Charles Kewn, the man-of-all-trades caretaker at "15". Charles has had a spell in hospital recently but is now well again and back at his post.

## Road Safety Experts

Toc H in Stourport, Worcs., are apparently experts on road safety. In a recent competition, held appropriately enough in the Magistrate's Court, Toc H narrowly defeated the Secondary School P.T.A. and the Trefoil Guild. They now go forward to the next round to find the Worcestershire County champions. The final will take place between the top teams from five Midland counties and the eventual winners will receive £100 and a trophy.



## "Thank-you in fancy dress" by mental patients

A recent social evening arranged by Parkhurst (W.A.) Branch for mentally sub-normal patients had a novel twist. The entertainment was put on, not by the Branch, but by the patients themselves. Ena Crossley, *Point Three* correspondent for the Isle of Wight Joint District, reports:

The entertainers—50 of them—arrived in fancy dress, together with their helpers and nurses. They were the mentally sub-normal men from Whitwell Ward, St. Mary's Hospital, Newport, assisted by the women from Longford Hospital, Havenstreet. At the beginning of 1968 the Parkhurst Branch had invited some of the men along to a social evening (with some trepidation, so they asked Parkhurst men's Branch to be in on it) which had turned out to be such a success that they had been making regular monthly visits to the ward ever since.

One of the ladies from Cowes Branch offered to teach them old-time dancing, which was a huge success, and the monthly socials are taken up with this hobby. The cabaret was a thank-you from the lads, and they had worked long and hard to produce an evening's riotous entertainment. Each lad present had a pullover which had been knitted

by the Parkhurst women as Christmas presents.

This work is much appreciated by those in charge of the ward, as the patients get little contact with the outside world, and the improvement in them when they have regular social contact such as this, is noticeable. "Martha", when she was on the Island in September, also helped in this project by taking out several of the lads, some of whom had not been outside the hospital for ten years.

These people, we fear, are among the "forgotten ones" of this world. The public just don't want to know about them. Of course, it is important that contact, once made, should be maintained. To start work with such people and then drop it after a year, just when they have got used to your presence, would be most cruel. However, for those Branches that have the staying power, it is most rewarding.

## YORKSHIRE PUT IT ON FILM

Toc H Yorkshire member Ralph Jackson has produced his own film of the Movement's work. He has taken as his model the "Down Your Way" radio programmes, interviewing a number of Toc H personalities in Yorkshire and then asking them to choose a record. The musical interludes are used, according to the *Huddersfield Daily Examiner*, "to show a selection of appropriate shots of scenic, floral and human interest".

## "S" FOR SHOPPING

The newly formed Joint group in Byfleet have recently installed emergency flashing lights in the homes of three housebound old people—the first of 25 people living on their own who will eventually be covered by the scheme. But Byfleet are not only fitting emergency lights. They are also giving each of the old people a yellow fluorescent card with a black 'S' on it. This will be a non-emergency sign, to let passers-by know that the person is short of groceries.

## ... please forward

*Included in the minutes of a District Team was the following Branch report: "the Branch found that a Christmas parcel had been delivered to an old lady two years after her death." Might this be called Psychophilanthropy?*

## Cosby women run shop for the elderly

The Women's Association Branch in Cosby, Leics., believe that they are the first Branch in the country to run a special shop as a service for the elderly. The shop, in the Branch headquarters, is open for an hour every other Saturday and sells health-giving beverages and foods at much reduced prices. In addition to the Branch members a number of young people help to serve in the shop and to make cups of tea for the customers. Also obtainable from the shop—large print books for those whose eyesight is not as good as it was.



The Cosby Women's Association shop for the elderly. Well stocked and ready to receive the first customer.  
Photo: Leicester Mercury.



# CLOSE GAPS IN DIVORCE BILL

## Swindon Urges Parliament

Swindon is one Toc H District that believes that among its functions should be the forming of opinion on matters of general public concern and bringing pressure to bear on the authorities. Last autumn, as we reported in our October issue, the Swindon District Team published a report on the plight of gypsies, urging the immediate establishment of proper sites. This campaign is still being carried on and, reports the Team's Development Officer, Eric Hodges, they are "keeping the pot on the boil."

### Muddled

Meanwhile Eric and the Team have produced another report, which urges the Government "to ensure that the Divorce Reform Bill, now before Parliament, caters adequately for the financial support of the divorced or separated wife and her children". The Team believe that "the present laws regarding maintenance are inadequate and muddled."

The wife who is left without support can get help from the Ministry of Social Security only if she is not in full-time employment. "If she is, she can get nothing—even though her total earnings are less than she would get if she were receiving social security benefit. Yet she may, for a number of very valid reasons, be unwilling to relinquish her job." In addition to losing her husband's income she may also have to meet legal costs in connection with the divorce proceedings. "The cut in total income," says the Report, "can, and often does, cause severe psychiatric disorders." The Team suggest that there should be a special fund, administered by the Ministry of Social Security, to provide assistance in such cases.

Although the wife may be entitled to money from her ex-husband, she may

not get it. "If she takes her husband to court for non-payment any arrears to which she is entitled may be written off. This may be satisfactory from a legal point of view but it does not help to clothe or feed children. One way out of this problem would be to alter the law relating to social security payments so that the wife could authorise the Ministry of Social Security to receive payments on her behalf even though she was in full-time employment." This would ensure that the wife would receive regular payments from the Ministry and would also ensure that the wife and children "were not being punished for the husband's misdemeanours whilst he was in prison for non-payment of debts."

The Report also points out that "the magistrate tends to lean towards the legal wife regarding maintenance—thus often producing undesirable suffering to the husband's second family. Whilst it is essential that the State should not encourage marital infidelity or parental irresponsibility, it is not a desirable thing to make the children of a second family suffer financially through their father's indiscretion. There is, therefore, a very strong case for the State to assist the abandoned wife. This is a second, and equally valid, reason for allowing the Ministry of Social Security to make special payments to divorced or separated wives, even though they are in full-time employment, if the husband's total income is, or becomes, inadequate".

### A real gap

The Swindon District Team have pointed out a real gap in our social services and have made apparently practical and realistic suggestions for filling it. It is to be hoped that their report, which has been widely circulated, will receive a positive response from the Government.

## DURING A HEATED DEBATE

*News has just reached us about an evening spent trying on wigs in a Women's Branch in Yorkshire. Now you really can say "keep your hair on" when the discussions get a bit hot.*

## More concerts in Tolworth

"Tolworth Branch has agreed to present further concerts next winter provided sponsors can be found to cover completely any loss which may arise," Cecil Rogers, Tolworth's concert manager, announced recently. Though the financial results of this winter's concerts have been disappointing they have drawn music lovers from a wide area. And, says Cecil, "Alfredo Campoli, the soloist at the second concert, congratulated the Branch on its advertising; and the presentation was such that he thought the Branch was an old hand at the game".

## Jimmy Savile Appeals to the "Guys and Gals"

When a *Point Three* reporter visited Radio Luxemburg studios to interview disc jockey Jimmy Savile about a scheme he was sponsoring for invalid children—the tables were neatly turned when Jimmy whipped out a tape-recorder from nowhere and said "now I'm going to interview you for my programme 'Savile's Travels'." The results of that spontaneous interview with Huw Gibbs, Associate Editor, and Ray Fabes, S.E. Regional staff, were broadcast on Sunday March 2 and the broadcast was closed by Jimmy Savile with an appeal, which must rank among the most unusual ever made for the Movement, when he said "now then all you guys and gals who are doing nothing right now—get in touch with Toc H", followed by the headquarters address.

During the interview explanations were given of the P.H.A.B. holiday experiments in Surrey and the Toc H sponsored flashing light scheme for the elderly.

## ... the old bull and bush

*Leighton Branch are seeking anyone possessing sheet music for the old music hall favourites and willing to sing them for the old people of Wing Lodge Home. Turn out those old trunks and rake over the rubbish in the attic and send your findings to Toc H, Eversholt House, Leighton Buzzard.*





#### LEFT

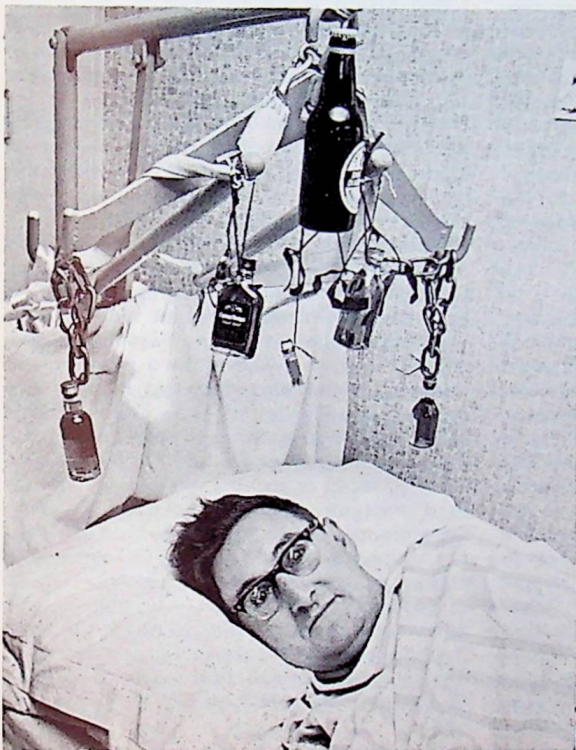
1,000 bags of firewood in two years. That's the record set by Westwood Toc H. Receiving the bag from Arthur Sheppard, assistant Jobmaster, is 93 year old Mrs. Ada Negus.

*Photo: Peterborough Evening Telegraph.*

#### BELOW

They call Mrs. Edmondson "the angel" at the Fuller Baptist Church coffee bar. There they get a welcome, good coffee, a laugh and a ticking off no doubt—but they wouldn't be without her. The bar was completely redecorated by Toc H who also provided a selection of tables and chairs.

*Photo: Northamptonshire Evening Telegraph.*



## picture point

#### LEFT

Arthur Gaydon suffers from multiple sclerosis and, apart from his head, is completely paralysed. Yet Coventry Branch, to quote their secretary Alec Judson, regard him as one of their "greatest assets" and feel thankful that they can draw upon "his strength of character." Arthur recently became a member after receiving visits from the Branch and insists on paying his subs regularly, and has expressed more than once that he is a little apprehensive about his usefulness to the Branch. Our photo was taken last Christmas when Arthur decorated his bed with a sample of his "favourite medicine."



# LEADERS WANTED!

John Morgan, Chairman of the Surrey, S. & W. London Area, makes a plea for more training, a point also stressed in many replies to the Questionnaire.

Every sphere of Christian service needs the best leadership available and it is not without significance that many of the problems which occur in such service arise as problems of leadership. We have all had the experience of seeing an activity getting into an almost hopeless rut, and so often this predicament stems from a lack of direction and enthusiasm on the part of the leaders.

Leadership is demanding in that there are no limits to what may be expected. The leader's time is not his own, his leisure is interrupted and his willingness to sacrifice is tested constantly. Time must be given to planning and organisation, to individuals, to the instruction of others, and time must also be given to equipping himself for more effective leadership. If, in the capacity in which a man is serving, he is found giving grudging and half-hearted service let him not be considered for leadership.

In his most excellent book *A Christian's Guide to Leadership* (Hodder & Stoughton 3s. 6d.), Derek Prime gives five obvious basic qualifications which a leader should have: these are: (a) A distinctive character and bearing, inspiring confidence and loyalty; (b) A capacity for work and for decision; (c) An element of drive, energy and enthusiasm; (d) A readiness to assume responsibility and direction of others; and (e) An ability to convey to others a vision and to work with them in its realisation.

## Leadership is vital

At the present time leadership is the vital thing that we ought to be exercising our minds about, not only in our Branches, but more particularly in our District Teams, for these are the real "power-houses" of our Movement. My experience tells me, however, that we do not give enough time to this subject. The election of the Branch representative on the District Team should be a first priority as it is from such people that the District Officers will normally be chosen. It is pretty pointless to talk of the Toc H of the future if we do not get the right men and women to lead the Movement into the seventies and beyond. The mere fact that a new integrated Movement will soon be legally born should be sufficient to make us realise that the initial problems it will bring can only be solved by having sound leadership.

In my opinion each member can be a potential leader and if we really believe in this Movement we should be prepared to give a lot more time to it than we do at present. It is not unfair to say that too many Christians let too few Christians do all the work and take all the responsibility. Over the years we have come to rely too much on the staff and not thought enough for ourselves. We are however a lay Movement and control it by our own decisions and actions.

You may think that this is all very fine but feel that you have neither the gift nor talent for leadership. I agree that many people are obviously born leaders and gyrate naturally to this position. Nevertheless the majority of us can be trained for leadership if we are willing to undergo this and during my membership of Toc H I have seen some startling transformations which have resulted in the most unlikely people becoming outstanding leaders.

How can such leaders be produced? Well, I feel that it is up to Districts to arrange training programmes to this end. In my early days in the Movement these were a regular feature but somehow they seem to have fallen into disuse in recent years. In two of the Districts in my own Area they have recently had a series of talks given by members of the staff on certain aspects of Toc H, this again is all useful training for leadership. There are also the Dor Knap weekends and although these have their social side, they are also intended to give serious training to those interested enough to attend. Even Branch programmes can be useful training media if they are well planned.

I often wonder how many Branch members are only vaguely aware of the true nature and purpose of Toc H and of the real part that they can play in achieving its aims. There must be many Branches who have relied on just one man to lead them and when he disappeared, for one reason or another, they have been left in a vacuum and quickly gone down. I therefore ask you to make sure that this does not happen in your Branch or District and to address yourselves earnestly to this question of leadership. You may feel that I have painted too gloomy a picture of the situation, but I do feel strongly about this problem and I do not wish to see our newly integrated Movement swiftly dissolve into a disintegrated one.



## SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS

Small advertisements must be received (with remittance) by the first day of the month preceding publication. The charge is 6d. a word (minimum 6s.). Arthur Scholey, DPS Publicity Services Ltd, 69 Fleet Street, E.C.4 or to "Point Three" Magazine, Toc H, 41 Trinity Square, London E.C.3. (01-709 0472)

**GUERNSEY C.I.** Good homely fare in Toc H family. H & C in all rooms. Midweek bookings accepted. Terms BB and EM £9 9s. per week. Mrs. P. Saunders, Petherton, Tertre Lane, Vale. Tel. Guernsey 44756 (STD 0481).

**BED AND BREAKFAST** in comfortable unassuming home. Evening meal by arrangement. Newland, 61 Kenilworth Road, Bognor Regis. Telephone: Bognor 24192.

**BALL PENS FOR "FUND RAISING".** Your Branch name, etc. die-stamped on each ball pen. We are the largest wholesalers and die-stampers of ball pens in the United Kingdom—based on this fact, we can offer your Branch competitive prices—speedy service—quality. Send today for free samples and details, THOMPSON & CREIGHTON, "Ball Pen Suppliers", 202, Heaton Road, Newcastle on Tyne, NE6 5JJ.

**PENTEWAN,** Cornwall. 4-berth caravan from 6-12 gns. Oldnall, 82 Exeter Road, Smethwick, Worcs. S.A.E.

**ADVERTISING PENCILS,** superb Ball-Pens, Combs, Brushes, etc., gold-stamped Branch name, raise funds quickly, easily. Details—Northern Novelties, Bradford 2.



### BRUGES, BELGIUM.

Hotel Jacobs welcomes Toc H parties and individual visitors to this lovely old city. Within easy reach of other famous cities of art, and of coast. Good food and comfortable accommodation in friendly

atmosphere. Pleasant restaurant, bar and lounge. Parking. English spoken. Strongly recommended. Write for brochure and terms to Mr. Jules Lietaert, HOTEL JACOBS, Baliestraat 1, Bruges, Belgium.

**PRINTED BRITISH BALL PENS.** 42s. gross, plus postage 4s. 6d. This includes 36 letters and spaces advert. Advertising pencils 37s. 6d. gross, plus postage 3s. Pioneer Pencil Company, 3 Tithebarn Street, Liverpool 2. Central 8166.

**THIS YEAR VISIT POPERINGE.** Why not join a Toc H party to Bruges and Poperinge? Leaving London July 12. Full details from Skegg Blanchard, Toc H, 15 Trinity Square, London, E.C.3.

**INSURANCE:** Let a Christian broker arrange your Unit Trusts, Investments, Endowment, Pensions and all other insurances. Mr. F. G. Applegate, Norfolk House, The Terrace, Torquay. Tel: 27872.

**HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION:** Yorkshire Dales, Near Reeth. Modernised, well furnished house. All electric. Sleep six. Vac. June 14 to July 19, and September. S.A.E., Mrs. Purdy, 89 Grange Road, Belmont, Durham. Tel: 2771.

**WARDEN MANOR.** Book now for your summer holiday amid unspoilt country on North Kent coast. Old world atmosphere. Toc H spirit. 1969 season May 23 (Whitsun) to May 31, and July 12 through to September 14. Cost from £7 15s. to £8 15s. per week. Tennis, table tennis, putting and entertainments free. Bathing at Warden Bay nearby. Garage. Bus service direct from railway station to Manor door. Write: Secretary (Warden Manor), 1 Warrior Square Terrace, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

### 10 DAY CONTINENTAL HOLIDAY.

2 nights Ypres (for Poperinge)—5 nights Rhine Valley—2 nights Brussels. Depart Sunday, June 29, 1969. £36. 15. 0d. inclusive. Pick up en route Midlands to Dover. Details from Eric Poxon, 55 Lichfield Road, Brownhills, Walsall, Staffs. Arranged by Hednesford Toc H Branch.





Read the remarkable story of Dr. John Stansfeld who by introducing "Tubby" to the Oxford Medical Mission to Bermondsey unwittingly sowed the seeds for the conception of Toc H years later on the Ypres Salient.

## THE DOCTOR

A biography by Barclay Baron.

Paperback version only 3/6.

A reduced price while stocks last.

## DO YOU NEED SIX OF THE BEST?

.... then add these to your library.

### SECOND WIND

3s 6d.

Historical perspective of Toc H, viewed against future development.  
Written by **JOHN CALLF**, former Administrator and Editor of Toc H Journal.

### EXTENSION

1s 6d.

A practical guide to increasing membership.  
Written by **ALEC CHURCHER**

### THE STILL CENTRE

4s 6d.

A collection of anonymous writings from members of the Bordon Company.

### THE SECOND MILE

3s 0d.

The book that every Jobmaster must read.  
Written by **ALEC CHURCHER**

### STIRRING THE MIXTURE

2s 6d.

A book for Branch leaders.  
Written by **ALEC CHURCHER**

### REDISCOVERING TOC H

2s 6d.

A series of illustrated articles.  
Written by **MAYNE ELSON** former Regional staff and retiring Commissioner for B.A.O.R. clubs.

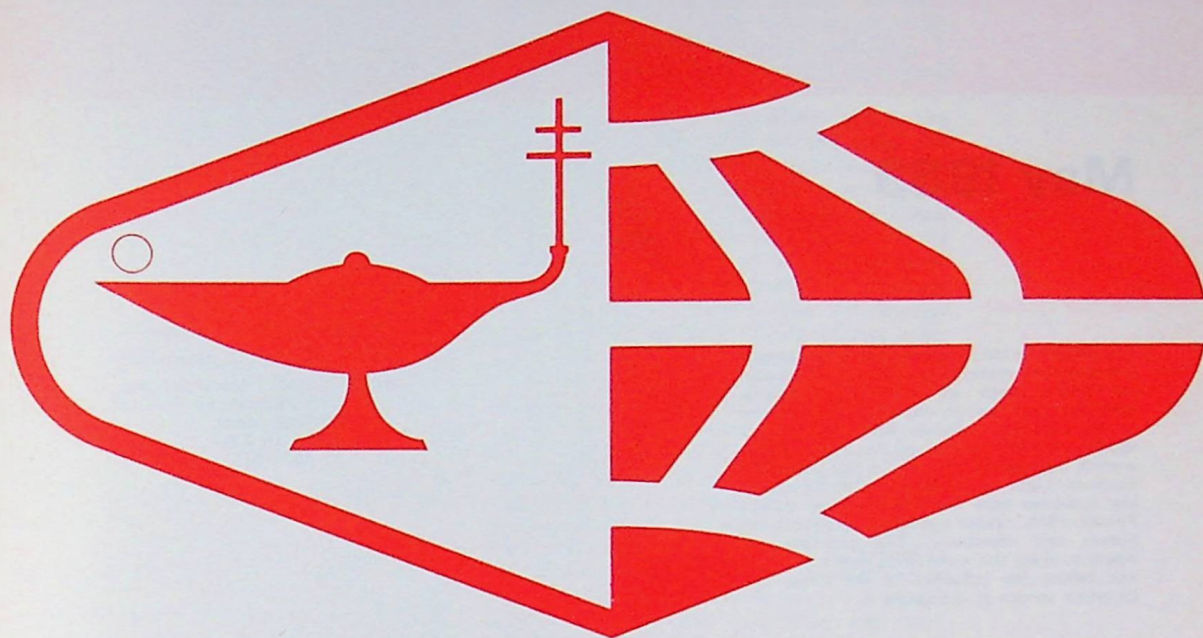


# point three

May 1969

one shilling

a new symbol for TOC H



MIND THAT BICYCLE . . . 82

ADVERTISING AND  
SYMBOLS . . . . . 89

SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND  
JUBILEE . . . . . 90

DISASTER!  
WHAT WOULD YOU DO? . 99

POINT THREE is the  
monthly magazine  
of Toc H